

and on his head the *narthex*, with its hanging chains.¹

It was from the Lombard princes that the unity of Southern Italy from within seemed once or twice likely to be achieved. The contest of the two Empires for the debatable land gave the more skilful among them a chance to realise that possibility, and unity and independence might be snatched out of the struggle, by the aid of one or the other. Generally speaking the Lombard princes were pro-Byzantine, but an alliance with the Western Empire seemed to the greatest man among them in the tenth century more promising.

It was Pandulf Iron-Head of Capua who came nearest founding a hegemony over the Lombard and city-states of Lower Italy, before the coming of the Normans.

The short but brilliant career of this man lasted from 966 to 981. From 966 to 969 the great Emperor Otto I. was in Italy bent on expelling the Greeks from the south; he fixed upon Pandulf, the first of his name in Capua, as the one strong man capable of holding the country as a fief of the Holy Roman Empire, and invested him (Christmas, 966) not only in Capua, but in Spoleto and the March of Camerino. The

Empires made
peace in 969, but this was only the
beginning of
Iron-Head's career. Landulf of
Benevento dying,
he forced his own son into the duchy,
he became

'Engel et Serrure, *Traitt de numismatique du*
may en Age,
vol. ii., p, 292.